

REMARKS

The following is intended as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated May 17, 2007. Claims 1-6, 8-10, 21, 22, and 24-28 were examined. Claims 1-3 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Boucher (US 6,334, 153). Claims 4-6, 8-9, 21-22, and 24-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Boucher in view of Adams (US 6,775,693). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and § 103(a)

Claim 1, as amended, recites the limitation of a hardware subsystem configured to process all frames related to one or more connections delegated by a TCP stack to produce frame data and to upload the frame data to a user buffer in the system memory allocated to the application program, if the user buffer is available, and to a legacy buffer in the system memory, if the user buffer is not available. Boucher does not disclose or suggest these limitations.

Boucher is disclosing a system for protocol processing through the use of an intelligent network interface card (INIC) associated with a host computer. See Boucher at Abstract. As explained in Figure 3 and the corresponding text in column 6 of Boucher, when a packet is received by the INIC, a determination must be made as to whether the packet is a candidate for fast-path processing. If the packet is a candidate, then the packet is immediately sent to a final destination buffer in the host. See Boucher at column 7, lines 3-9. In the case where the final destination buffer is not ready, the INIC queues the packet until the buffer is ready. See Boucher at column 7, lines 7-15.

The Boucher system is in contrast to the system claimed in amended claim 1 and shown in Figure 3 of the present application. As specifically recited, if a user buffer is not available for a delegated connection, then the frame data is sent to a legacy buffer in the system memory. See Application at paragraphs 54 and 55. Thus, the system in Boucher, which queues packets not eligible for fast-path processing in the INIC until the buffer is ready, does not disclose the subject matter of amended claim 1.

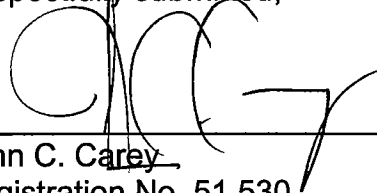
As the forgoing illustrates, Boucher fails to teach or suggest each and every limitation of amended claim 1 and therefore cannot anticipate or render obvious this claim or claims 2-6, 8-9, 21, 22, and 28 dependent thereon.

Independent claim 10 includes limitations similar to those discussed above in connection with allowable amended claim 1 and therefore is in condition for allowance for at least the same reasons as amended claim 1. Since claims 24-27 depend from allowable claim 10, these claims also are in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

Based on the above remarks, Applicants believe that they have overcome all of the rejections set forth in the Office Action mailed on May 17, 2007 and that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions, please contact the Applicant's undersigned representative at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,



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